





















Ranger Programs

During your visit the National Park Service encourages you to participate in the programs listed below. All programs are free.

Grand Canyon Village

Activity	Location	Time	Duration	Frequency
Cedar Ridge Hike 				
With a ranger, descend 1,140 feet (350 m) below the rim on the unpaved South Kaibab Trail to Cedar Ridge. This strenuous 3-mile (5-km) round-trip hike is not recommended for people with heart or respiratory problems or difficulty walking. Participants should wear sturdy footwear and bring 1–2 quarts (1–2 liters) of water per person. Hat, sunscreen, and snacks strongly recommended. Hikers cannot drive to the trailhead. Ride the free Village Route shuttle bus to Canyon View Information Plaza and hop on the Kaibab Trail Route shuttle bus by 6:40 a.m. Allow 45 minutes for total travel time.	South Kaibab Trailhead	7:00 a.m.	3–4 hours	Daily
Fossil Walk: Remnant Impressions  				
Walk among brachiopods, sponges, and other marine creatures that thrived on this part of the continent 270 million years ago, before the age of the dinosaurs. This easy ½-mile (0.8 km) one-way walk explores an exposed fossil bed along the rim. Parking may be limited; park in Lots C, D, or E or ride the free Village Route shuttle to the Bright Angel Lodge stop.	Patio on rim side of Bright Angel Lodge	9:00 a.m.	1 hour	Daily
Colorado River Talk  				
Enjoy the grandeur and power of the Colorado River as you explore and discuss the river's role in Grand Canyon. Program may include a short walk on a paved path. Parking may be limited; plan to arrive by the Village Route shuttle bus to the Yavapai Observation Station stop.	Bicycle rack outside Yavapai Observation Station	10:00 a.m.	30–45 minutes	Daily
Introduction to Grand Canyon's Geology  				
Why is the Grand Canyon so deep, wide, and grand? Why does it exist only here in the world? Come and participate in this fascinating talk to learn how Grand Canyon was formed. Plan sufficient time to arrive at the visitor center by the free Village Route shuttle bus.	Grand Canyon Visitor Center at Canyon View Information Plaza	10:30 a.m.	30–45 minutes	Daily
The Human Story   				
For thousands of years, humans have been part of Grand Canyon. Join park staff outside of Verkamp's Visitor Center to take a look at the history of the South Rim area. Programs may include a walk around the village historic district or a talk inside if the weather is poor. Parking may be limited; consider parking at Lots C or D or riding the free Village Route shuttle bus to the Train Depot stop.	Verkamp's Visitor Center front porch	1:00 p.m.	30–45 minutes	Daily
Rim Walk   				
Grand Canyon is a colorful landscape with a rich history. Enjoy an intriguing walk with a park ranger exploring the canyon's natural and cultural history. This is an easy, up to one-mile (1.6-km) walk on a paved trail. Parking may be limited; consider parking at Lots C or D or riding the free Village Route shuttle bus to the Train Depot stop.	Verkamp's Visitor Center front porch	2:30 p.m.	45–60 minutes	Daily
Geo-Glimpse  				
Enjoy the geology exhibits at Yavapai Observation Station and explore a selected aspect of the canyon's geology during these short talks.	Inside Yavapai Observation Station	3:00 p.m.	15–20 minutes	Daily
Condor Talk: Wings over the Canyon  				
What highly endangered bird with a 9-foot (2.7-m) wingspan is often spotted at Grand Canyon? The California condor! Learn about these majestic birds and their reintroduction in northern Arizona in a talk on the canyon's rim. Parking is limited; consider parking at Lots C or D or riding the free Village Route shuttle bus to the Bright Angel stop..	In front of Lookout Studio near Bright Angel Lodge (You may have to use stairs to arrive at the program site.)	3:30 p.m.	30–45 minutes	Daily
Evening Program   				
The perfect way to end your day at the Grand Canyon! Relax beneath the stars and enjoy a ranger presentation on a significant aspect of the canyon's fascinating natural or cultural history. For this evening's topic check the schedules posted around the park. Arrive by walking, driving, or riding the free Village Shuttle Bus. Dress warmly and bring a flashlight for this outdoor presentation. Accessibility note: Although the trails to the amphitheater are paved, short sections exceed 5% grade.	Mather Amphitheater , behind Park Headquarters, a short walk from Parking Lot A	8:30 p.m.	1 hour	Daily

We hope that learning more about Grand Canyon National Park and its resources will lead to a greater appreciation of your national park.

Family Fun

Although children may enjoy many of the activities listed on the adjacent page, the following programs are designed especially for families. Please remember that children must bring an adult with them to all programs. Learn about the Junior Ranger Program on page 6.

Junior Ranger Adventure Hike

Experience Grand Canyon below the rim. Join a ranger on the challenging Hermit Trail to enjoy Grand Canyon's wonders. Participants may explore a fossil site and the colorful rocks, create artwork, learn about plants, animals, and safe hiking techniques. This one- to two-mile (2-3 km) round-trip hike is strenuous; bring water, good hiking shoes, a hat, and sunscreen. This hike is ideal for families with children ages 9-14. Participants are eligible to purchase a Junior Ranger Adventure Hike patch. To arrive on time for this program, board the free Hermits Rest shuttle bus by 8:00 a.m.

Offered June 9 through August 15.

This program offered June 9 through August 15.

Hermits Rest bell	9:00 a.m.	2 hours	Tuesday through Saturday
--------------------------	-----------	---------	--------------------------

Alien Invaders!

Help conquer Grand Canyon's alien invaders! Learn about the invasive species that are threatening the park's native plants and animals. Be ready to roll up your sleeves and join in the fight against alien invaders by helping remove some of Grand Canyon's *least* wanted invasive plants. **Offered June 9 through August 13.**

This program offered June 9 through August 13.

Verkamp's Visitor Center front porch	9:00 a.m.	2 ½ hours	Tuesday Thursday
---	-----------	-----------	------------------

Junior Ranger Discovery Pack Program

Explore the ecological wonders of Grand Canyon with your family and discover the diversity of plants and animals that live here. Learn to use binoculars, field guides, and other tools of a naturalist. This program is designed for families with children ages 9-14. Participants are eligible to purchase a Discovery Pack Junior Ranger patch. Parents sign out the Discovery Packs with a driver's license and must return them to Park Headquarters no later than 4:00 p.m. the same day. Ride the free Village Route shuttle bus to the Shrine of Ages stop or park in Parking Lot A. **This program begins June 7.**

This program begins June 7.

In the courtyard at Park Headquarters	9:00 a.m.	1 ½ hours	Daily You will have until 4:00 p.m. to explore on your own with the Discovery Pack
--	-----------	-----------	---

Kids Rock!

Join a ranger for fun activities exploring the wonders of the natural world at Grand Canyon. Rangers lead children ages 7-11 through games and activities in a fun educational experience. Possible themes include fire ecology, water, insects, bats, and much more! **This program begins June 7.**

This program begins June 7.

Shrine of the Ages at the west end of Parking Lot A	10:00 a.m.	1 hour	Daily
--	------------	--------	-------

Storytime Adventures

Hear a ranger reading fun children's books about Grand Canyon. Props and interactive games bring the stories to life. This program is for families with children ages 2-6. Children receive a condor tattoo or sticker. **This program begins June 7.**

This program begins June 7.

Porch on the rim side of El Tovar Hotel	1:30 p.m.	30 minutes	Daily
--	-----------	------------	-------

Way Cool Stuff for Kids

Join a ranger for interactive games and fun activities designed to introduce children ages 7-11 to the way cool environment of Grand Canyon. Themes—including animal adaptations, predator-prey relationships, invasive species, and more—promote an appreciation of the outdoors and our national parks. **Offered June 7 through August 15.**

This program offered June 7 through August 15.

Shrine of the Ages at the west end of Parking Lot A	4:00 p.m.	1 hour	Daily
--	-----------	--------	-------




Additional Family Programs

As staffing permits, rangers will offer additional junior ranger programs for families, which may include night hikes and full moon walks. Look for signs in the village area or at the Visitor Center to confirm times and availability.








Ranger Programs, continued



Special Programs – Grand Canyon Village

Activity	Location	Time	Duration	Frequency
Full Moon Walks and Star Talks 				
See page 7 for sunset times and moon phase dates.				
During nights around the full moon and new moon, rangers may offer moon walks and star talks at the Mather Point overlook. Check bulletin boards at the visitor centers and campgrounds to see if these events are scheduled. Programs may be presented in the 3 days around new and full moons.	Mather Point	One hour after sunset	1 hour	3 days around new and full moons
Campfire Program  				
Return to the roots of the national park experience for an evening program around a campfire. Rangers will offer nightly programs at the Mather Campground campfire circle as staffing permits. Check at the visitor centers or bulletin board in the campground to see if a program is being offered.	Mather Campground , Sage Loop Campfire Circle	7:00 p.m.	45–60 minutes	As staffing permits
Additional Programs				
As staffing permits, rangers will offer additional programs which may include Fossil Walks, Kolb Studio Tours, and condor programs as staffing is available. Look for signs in the Village area or at the visitor centers to confirm times and availability.	Locations vary	Varies	Varies	Varies


Desert View and Tusayan Museum

Glimpses of the Past  				
Have you ever wondered how 800 years ago people found food, water, and shelter? Join a ranger to explore the remains of an ancestral Puebloan village and envision a thriving community in this harsh and demanding environment. This walk entails a journey on a 0.1 mile (0.2 km) flat, paved trail.	Tusayan Museum , 3 miles (5 km) west of Desert View	11:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.	30 minutes	Daily
Cultural Connections  				
The story of human experience at Grand Canyon spans the last 12,000 years. Bring your imagination and explore people's stories, past and present.	Tusayan Museum , 3 miles (5 km) west of Desert View	2:00 p.m.	20 minutes	Daily
The Spirit of Sunset 				
See page 7 for sunset times.				
Tranquility . . . Inspiration . . . Spectacular colors and the natural sounds of the canyon. Leave the crowds behind and end your day at Desert View. Each ranger's passion for one of the canyon's unique facets is presented during this program. Wear weather appropriate clothing. See page 7 for sunset times.	Desert View Point near the Watchtower	1 hour before sunset	45 minutes	Daily


Inside the Canyon You must hike or ride the mules to these locations.

Indian Garden 				
Rangers present evening programs at the amphitheater just south of the Indian Garden Campground. Check the bulletin board in the campground for times and topics. Rangers also post information on additional programs as scheduling permits.	Indian Garden on the Bright Angel Trail.	As posted	Varies	Thursday through Sunday
Phantom Ranch 				
Programs are given daily at Phantom Ranch, reachable only by hiking or riding the mules to the bottom of the canyon. Talks cover a wide range of natural and cultural history topics. Upon arrival, check the Bright Angel Campground bulletin board or the Phantom Ranch Canteen for program locations and subjects. Junior Ranger activity booklet available.	Phantom Ranch	4:00 p.m.	45 minutes	Daily
		7:30 p.m.	45 minutes	Daily

Children must be accompanied by an adult on all programs.

 These family-oriented programs are ideal for meeting the ranger program requirement for the Grand Canyon's Junior Ranger award. Any ranger program, however, will meet the requirement on page 2 of the Junior Ranger Activity Booklet.

 All outdoor programs may be canceled during rain, snow, or lightning storms.

 These programs are wheelchair accessible with assistance. Wheelchairs may be checked out at the visitor center free of charge.